## Case 2:15-cv-03560-WB Document 1 Filed 06/25/15 Page 1 of 12

JS 44 (Rev. 12/12)

## **CIVIL COVER SHEET**

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS VICTORIA SAVAGE				<b>DEFENDANTS</b> TORRES CREDIT S		
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff PHILADELPHIA (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)  (c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number) CRAIG THOR KIMMEL, KIMMEL & SILVERMAN, P.C. 30 EAST BUTLER PIKE, AMBLER, PA 19002 PHONE: (215) 540-8888 EXT. 116				County of Residence  NOTE:  Attorneys (If Known)	THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.	
II. BASIS OF JURISD	ICTION (Place an "X" in	One Box Only)	III. C	CITIZENSHIP OF PRI	NCIPAL PARTIES (PIG	ace an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff
☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	□ 3 Federal Question     (U.S. Government Not a Party)			(For Diversity Cases Only)	rf def	and One Box for Defendant)  PTF DEF incipal Place
2 U.S. Government Defendant	4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship o	f Parties in Item III)		Citizen of Another State	of Business In A	Another State
-				Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	3 Foreign Nation	□ 6 □ 6
IV. NATURE OF SUIT					9	
CONTRACT  110 Insurance 120 Marine 130 Miller Act 140 Negotiable Instrument 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment 151 Medicare Act 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans) 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits 160 Stockholders' Suits 190 Other Contract 195 Contract Product Liability 196 Franchise    REAL PROPERTY     210 Land Condemnation   220 Foreclosure     230 Rent Lease & Ejectment     240 Torts to Land     245 Tort Product Liability     290 All Other Real Property	PERSONAL INJURY  310 Airplane 315 Airplane Product Liability 320 Assault, Libel & Slander 330 Federal Employers' Liability 340 Marine 345 Marine Product Liability 350 Motor Vehicle Product Liability 350 Motor Vehicle Product Liability 360 Other Personal Injury 362 Personal Injury Medical Malpractice CIVIL RIGHTS 441 Voting 441 Voting 441 Voting 442 Employment 443 Housing/ Accommodations 445 Amer. w/Disabilities Employment 446 Amer. w/Disabilities Other 448 Education	Other:	ry - ility  al y lity lity sonal ct  PERTY ling age lage lity  TONS  ce acate  Other ion e -	FORFEITURE/PENALTY    625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881     690 Other	BANKRUPTCY     422 Appeal 28 USC 158   423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157     PROPERTY RIGHTS   820 Copyrights   830 Patent   840 Trademark     SOCIAL SECURITY   861 HIA (1395ff)   862 Black Lung (923)   863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g))     864 SSID Title XVI   865 RSI (405(g))     FEDERAL TAX SUITS   870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant)   871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	OTHER STATUTES  □ 375 False Claims Act □ 400 State Reapportionment □ 410 Antitrust □ 430 Banks and Banking □ 450 Commerce □ 460 Deportation □ 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations □ 480 Consumer Credit □ 490 Cable/Sat TV □ 850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange □ 890 Other Statutory Actions □ 891 Agricultural Acts □ 893 Environmental Matters □ 895 Freedom of Information Act □ 896 Arbitration □ 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision □ 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes
	noved from 📙 3 Rem	anded from ellate Court			sferred from   6 Multidis her District Litigatio	
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION	Cite the U.S. Civil Statu 15 U.S.C. § 1692 et seq Brief description of caus FAIR DEBT COLLECT	e:		, (Do not cite jurisdictional statu	tes unless diversity);	
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	CHECK IF THIS IS UNDER RULE 23,		ON	DEMAND S	CHECK YES only JURY DEMAND:	if demanded in complaint: ⊠Yes □ No
VIII. RELATED CASE IF ANY	(See instructions):	JUDGE	1		DOCKET NUMBER	
DATE 06/23/2015		SIGNATURE OF AT	TORNEY	OF RECORD		
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY  RECEIPT # AM	IOUNT	APPLYING IFP		JUDGE	MAG. JUD	OGE

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA — DESIGNATION FORM to be used by counsel to indicate the category of the case for the purpose of assignment to appropriate calendar.

assignment to appropriate catendar.	
Address of Plaintiff: 523 East Hillcreek Drive, Philade	elphia, PA 19120
Address of Defendant: 27 Fairview Street, Suite 301,	Carlisle, PA 17015
Place of Accident, Incident or Transaction:	
(Use Reverse Side For	Additional Space)
Does this civil action involve a nongovernmental corporate party with any parent corporation	and any publicly held corporation owning 10% or more of its stock?
(Attach two copies of the Disclosure Statement Form in accordance with Fed.R.Civ.P. 7.1(a	Yes□ No H
Does this case involve multidistrict litigation possibilities?	Yes□ No.\(\Bar{\Bar{\Bar{\Bar{\Bar{\Bar{\Bar{\B
RELATED CASE, IF ANY:	
Case Number:         Judge	Date Terminated:
Civil cases are deemed related when yes is answered to any of the following questions:	
1. Is this case related to property included in an earlier numbered suit pending or within one	year previously terminated action in this court?
	Yes□ No⊠
2. Does this case involve the same issue of fact or grow out of the same transaction as a prior action in this court?	suit pending or within one year previously terminated
action in this court;	Yes□ No.ŽI
3. Does this case involve the validity or infringement of a patent already in suit or any earlier	
terminated action in this court?	Yes No 🗷
4. Is this case a second or successive habeas corpus, social security appeal, or pro se civil right	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
	Yes□ No  Mo
CIVIL: (Place V in ONE CATEGORY ONLY)	
A. Federal Question Cases:	B. Diversity Jurisdiction Cases:
1. □ Indemnity Contract, Marine Contract, and All Other Contracts	□ Insurance Contract and Other Contracts
2. □ FELA	2. □ Airplane Personal Injury
3. □ Jones Act-Personal Injury	
4. □ Antitrust	3. □ Assault, Defamation
	4. □ Marine Personal Injury
5. Patent	5.   Motor Vehicle Personal Injury
6. Labor-Management Relations	6. □ Other Personal Injury (Please specify)
7. □ Civil Rights	7. □ Products Liability
8. □ Habeas Corpus	8. □ Products Liability — Asbestos
9. □ Securities Act(s) Cases	9. □ All other Diversity Cases
10. □ Social Security Review Cases	(Please specify)
11. All other Federal Question Cases (Please specify) 15 U.S.C. § 1692 et seq.	
ADDITO ATION CEDO	CIEIC A TION
ARBITRATION CERT	
I, CRAIG THOR KIMMEL , counsel of record do hereby cert	ify:
□ Pursuant to Local Civil Rule 53.2, Section 3(c)(2), that to the best of my knowledge and \$150,000.00 exclusive of interest and costs;	d belief, the damages recoverable in this civil action case exceed the sum of
□ Relief other than monetary damages is sought.	
DATE: 06-23-15	57100
Attorney-at-Law NOTE: A trial de novo will be a trial by jury only if th	Attorney I.D.# ere has been compliance with F.R.C.P. 38.
I certify that, to my knowledge, the within case is not related to any case now pending or	r within one year previously terminated action in this court
except as noted above.	
DATE: 06-23-15	57100
Attorney-at-Law	Attorney I.D.#
CIV. 609 (5/2012)	

#### IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

#### **CASE MANAGEMENT TRACK DESIGNATION FORM**

	: CIVIL ACTION						
VICTORIA SAVAGE V.							
TORRES CREDIT SERVICES, I	NC.						
In accordance with the Civil Justice Expense and Delay Reduction Plan of this court, counsel for plaintiff shall complete a Case Management Track Designation Form in all civil cases at the time of filing the complaint and serve a copy on all defendants. (See § 1:03 of the plan set forth on the reverse side of this form.) In the event that a defendant does not agree with the plaintiff regarding said designation, that defendant shall, with its first appearance, submit to the clerk of court and serve on the plaintiff and all other parties, a Case Management Track Designation Form specifying the track to which that defendant believes the case should be assigned.							
SELECT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING CASE MANAGEMENT TRACKS:							
(a) Habeas Corpus – Cases brought under	28 U.S.C. § 2241 through § 2255.	( )					
(b) Social Security – Cases requesting revi and Human Services denying plaintiff S	ew of a decision of the Secretary of Health Social Security Benefits.	( )					
(c) Arbitration – Cases required to be design	gnated for arbitration under Local Civil Rule 53.2.	(X)					
(d) Asbestos – Cases involving claims for exposure to asbestos.	personal injury or property damage from	( )					

the court. (See reverse side of this form for a detailed explanation of special management cases.) ( )

(f) Standard Management – Cases that do not fall into any one of the other tracks. ( )

06-23-15 Plaintiff, Victoria Savage Date Attorney-at-law Attorney for 215-540-8888 x 116 877-788-2864 kimmel@creditlaw.com

Telephone FAX Number E-Mail Address

(e) Special Management – Cases that do not fall into tracks (a) through (d) that are commonly referred to as complex and that need special or intense management by

(Civ. 660) 10/02

## 1 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE 2 EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA 3 4 VICTORIA SAVAGE, 5 Plaintiff 6 Case No.: v. 7 COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR TORRES CREDIT SERVICES, INC., **JURY TRIAL** 8 9 Defendant (Unlawful Debt Collection Practices) 10 11 **COMPLAINT** 12 VICTORIA SAVAGE ("Plaintiff"), by and through her attorneys, KIMMEL 13 & SILVERMAN, P.C., alleges the following against TORRES CREDIT 14 15 SERVICES, INC. ("Defendant"): 16 INTRODUCTION 17 1. Plaintiff's Complaint is based on the Fair Debt Collection Practices 18 Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692 et seq. ("FDCPA"). 19 20 JURISDICTION AND VENUE 21 2. Jurisdiction of this court arises pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(d), 22 which states that such actions may be brought and heard before "any appropriate" 23 United States district court without regard to the amount in controversy," and 28 24 25

U.S.C. § 1331 grants this court original jurisdiction of all civil actions arising under the laws of the United States.

- 3. Defendant conducts business in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and as such, personal jurisdiction is established.
  - 4. Venue is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(1).

#### **PARTIES**

- 5. Plaintiff is a natural person residing in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19120.
- 6. Plaintiff is a "consumer" as that term is defined by 15 U.S.C. §1692a(3).
- 7. Defendant is a national debt collection company with its corporate headquarters located at 27 Fairview Street, Ste. 301, Carlisle, Pennsylvania 17015.
- 8. Defendant is a "debt collector" as that term is defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(6), and repeatedly contacted Plaintiff in an attempt to collect a debt.
- 9. Defendant acted through its agents, employees, officers, members, directors, heirs, successors, assigns, principals, trustees, sureties, subrogees, representatives, and insurers.

#### FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

10. At all pertinent times hereto, Defendant was hired to collect a consumer debt and attempted to collect that debt from Plaintiff.

11. The alleged debt, a PECO Energy home utility bill, arose out of transactions, which were primarily for personal, family, or household purposes.

- 12. Defendant collects, and attempts to collect, debts incurred, or alleged to have been incurred, for personal, family, or household purposes on behalf of creditors using the U.S. Mail, telephone and/or internet.
- 13. Beginning in or around December 2014, and continuing through late May 2015, Defendant repeatedly contacted Plaintiff on her cellular telephone seeking and demanding payment of an alleged debt.
- 14. When contacting Plaintiff, Defendant would use automated and/or prerecorded messages stating "Please hold and wait to be connected to the next available operator."
- 15. On the occasions in which Plaintiff was able to speak to Defendant's live representatives, she informed them that she did not owe a debt, and instructed both a male and female collector to place her number on the "Do not call" list.
- 16. Defendant failed to update its systems and continued to call Plaintiff an average of eight (8) to nine (9) times each day.
- 17. In one instance, involving one of Defendant's male collectors, Plaintiff was yelled at regarding the alleged debt, and then threatened with imminent legal action if the account remained unpaid.
  - 18. Again, Plaintiff informed Defendant that she did not owe a debt,

whereby she was requested to "send him the necessary paperwork."

- 19. Furthermore, on that same occasion, Defendant's male collector was so unyielding in his abuse that Plaintiff demanded to speak to his supervisor, to only be immediately hung up on before being transferred.
- 20. Defendant's collectors become so belligerent that Plaintiff was forced on several occurrences to hang up the phone, where immediately thereafter, Defendant would call back.
- 21. Upon information and belief, Defendant did not intend to take any legal action against Plaintiff; rather, it made those statements to her believing that such statements would cause Plaintiff to make payment on a debt that she did not owe.
- 22. Finally, within five (5) days of its initial communication with Plaintiff, Defendant failed to send written notification of her rights to dispute the debt and/or to request verification of the debt, as well as providing her with the amount of the debt and the name of the original creditor.
- 23. Defendant's actions herein, were taken with intent to annoy, oppress, and otherwise abuse Plaintiff in connection with the collection of a debt.

# DEFENDANT VIOLATED THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT

#### COUNT I

- 24. Defendant's conduct, as detailed in the preceding paragraphs, violated 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692d, 1692d(2), and 1692d(5).
  - a. A debt collector violates § 1692d of the FDCPA by engaging in conduct of the natural consequence of which is to harass, oppress, or abuse any person in connection with the collection of a debt.
  - b. A debt collector violates § 1692d(2) of the FDCPA by using obscene or profane language or language the natural consequence of which is to abuse the hearer or reader.
  - c. A debt collector violates § 1692d(5) of the FDCPA by causing a telephone to ring or engaging any person in telephone conversation repeatedly or continuously with intent to annoy, abuse, or harass any person at the called number.
  - d. Here, Defendant violated §§ 1692d, 1692d(2), and 1692d(5) of the FDCPA by repeatedly contacting Plaintiff on her cellular telephone on average eight (8) to nine (9) times a day, and using profanity and other abusive language when speaking to Plaintiff.

#### **COUNT II**

- 25. Defendant's conduct, as detailed in the preceding paragraphs, violated 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692e and 1692e(5) of the FDCPA.
  - a. A debt collector violates § 1692e of the FDCPA by using any false, deceptive or misleading representations or means in connection with the collection of any debt.
  - b. A debt collector violates § 1692e(5) of the FDCPA by threatening to take any action that cannot legally be taken or that is not intended to be taken.
  - c. Here, Defendant violated §§ 1692e and 1692e(5) of the FDCPA by falsely threatening Plaintiff with legal action that it did not have authority to take or intention of taking.

#### **COUNT III**

- 26. Defendant's conduct, as detailed in the preceding paragraphs, violated 15 U.S.C. § 1692f of the FDCPA.
  - a. A debt collector violates § 1692f of the FDCPA by using unfair or unconscionable means to collect or attempt to collect any debt.
  - b. Here, Defendant violated § 1692f of the FDCPA engaging in other unfair and unconscionable debt collection practices,

including failing to update its records to cease collection calls

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to Plaintiff's cellular telephone after she told them to stop calling.

a.

### **COUNT IV**

- 27. Defendant's conduct, as detailed in the preceding paragraphs, violated 15 U.S.C. § 1692g of the FDCPA.
  - A debt collector violates § 1692g(a) if within five days after the initial communication with a consumer, the debt collector fails to send the consumer a written notice containing (1) the amount of the debt; (2) the name of the creditor to whom the debt is owed; (3) a statement that unless the consumer, within thirty days after receipt of the notice, disputes the validity of the debt, or any portion thereof, the debt will be assumed to be valid by the debt collector; (4) a statement that if the consumer notifies the debt collector in writing within the thirty-day period that the debt, or any portion thereof, is disputed, the debt collector will obtain verification of the debt or a copy of a judgment against the consumer and a copy of such verification or judgment will be mailed to the consumer by the debt collector; and (5) a statement that, upon the consumer's written request within the

thirty-day period, the debt collector will provide the consumer with the name and address of the original creditor, if different from the current creditor.

b. Defendant violated § 1692g(a) by failing to send written notification, within five (5) days after its initial communication with Plaintiff, advising her of her rights to dispute the debt or request verification of the debt.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, VICTORIA SAVAGE, respectfully prays for a judgment as follows:

- a. All actual damages suffered pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §1692k(a)(1);
- b. Statutory damages of \$1,000.00 for the violation of the FDCPA pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §1692k(a)(2)(A);
- c. All reasonable attorneys' fees, witness fees, court costs and other litigation costs incurred by Plaintiff pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §1693k(a)(3); and
- d. Any other relief deemed appropriate by this Honorable Court.

# **DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Plaintiff, VICTORIA SAVAGE, demands a jury trial in this case.

Date: 16-28-15

## RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

By:

CRAIG THOR KIMMEL

Attorney ID No. 57100 Kimmel & Silverman, P.C.

30 E. Butler Pike

Ambler, PA 19002

Phone: (215) 540-8888 Fax: (877) 788-2864

Email: kimmel@creditlaw.com